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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/720,383

11/25/2003

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K-0566

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EXAMINER

HECKERT, JASON MARK

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1746

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/720,383	Applicant(s) KIM ET AL.	
	Examiner Jason Heckert	Art Unit 1746	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/22/07.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-24 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-24 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 13 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 12-15, filed 2/22/07, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-3 and 8-11 under U.S.C. §102(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of newly discovered prior art.

2. Applicant's arguments, see page 12-15, filed 2/22/07, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 4-7 and 13-15 under U.S.C. §103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of newly discovered prior art.

3. Specifically, the applicant has amended claim 1 to include the new limitation of a location correction recess and location correction protrusion that are complementary in shape. Further search, in regards to this limitation, has yielded art that shows that alignment means are common and well known.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 13 objected to because of the following informalities: The claim reads "at least one location correction recess comprises a plurality of location correction protrusions". Examiner thinks this is a type and that it should read --at least one location correction recess comprises a plurality of location correction *recesses*--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-11, 13-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted state of the art (ASA) as disclosed by the applicant in view of Ferchau et al (Ferchau). The ASA (figures 1 and 2 and paragraphs 0003 – 0014) teaches an assembly of supplying detergent in a washing machine comprising a receiving part 12, a detergent box 14 with a plurality of detergent storing parts, and a drawer panel 16 with grip 15. A plate is clearly shown in the opening of the receiving part that has a shaped entrance for drawing the detergent box. A control panel 20 is provided to a side of the receiving part and the plate mentioned earlier is built into a recess in the body of the control panel. In paragraph 0010, an inlet pipe 6 is disclosed allowing water to be injected via shower holes into the detergent box.

6. The ASA does not disclose the location correction means. Location correction means (pegs, members, protrusion, pins, etc.) are common in many applications, including drawer assemblies, analogous to the applicant's dispenser. Ferchau discloses a plurality alignment pins 22 that protrudes in a forward direction to be received in a plurality recesses 39a and 39b of drawer 16 in order to ensure proper alignment and location. At least one recess and pin are of complementary shape and hence it would be obvious to make all of them complementary in shape. Although

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Ferchau does not teach the location as being in the front of the receiving unit, nor the recess in the front of the panel, the function is ultimately the same as the applicant's claimed invention: upon full insertion of the dispenser, the pins meet a complementary recess to ensure proper alignment. Furthermore, rearrangement of parts was held to have been obvious. *In re Japikse* 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1955). Locating the alignment means so that the pin is on the front of the drawer, and the recess is on the front panel is nothing more than an obvious rearrangement of parts that results in the exact same function and is not considered to be patentably distinct. The pin 22 is integral.

7. In regards to 6, 14-15, 20-21, changes in shape or form have been held to be obvious. *In re Dailey* 149 USPQ 47, 50 (CCPA 1966). Ferchau discloses a pin and recess that are complementary in shape. Changing the shape of the pin, to include another protrusion, is merely a change in shape that results in the same functionality of alignment and is not considered to be patentably distinct. It would have been obvious at the time of the invention, to modify the ASA, and include alignment means as taught by Ferchau, to prevent unwanted movement.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Heckert whose telephone number is (571) 272-2702. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on (571)272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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JMH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Barr', with a large, sweeping horizontal stroke at the bottom.

MICHAEL BARR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER